



2004 Recreational Bottom Fishing Regulations: **Northern Management Area**

Ocean waters between the California-Oregon Border and 40°10' N. latitude (near Cape Mendocino)



BOLD RED FONT indicates in-season changes expected to take effect on May 1 and other changes. These changes replace regulations listed in the 2004 Ocean Sport Fishing Regulations booklet. May 1 regulation changes will affect fishing seasons, bag limits, and depth restrictions.

Species	Time Period ²	Depth Limit ²	Daily Bag Limit ²	Min. Size Limit ^{1,2,3}
RCG Complex (including all species of Rockfish that are not prohibited or restricted, Cabezon, and Greenlings as defined in Section 1.91)	Open all year	Jan-Apr: No depth restrictions May-Dec: May only be taken in less than 180 ft (30 fm)	10 fish in combination per person; see sub-limits for cabezon, greenling and bocaccio	See individual species below
Canary, Cowcod, and Yelloweye Rockfishes	CLOSED all year; NO RETENTION		NO RETENTION (zero)	
Bocaccio	Open all year	Same as RCG Complex above	2 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG bag limit.	10" total length
Black Rockfish	Open: Jan-May 15 ⁵ , June-Aug Closed: May 16-May 31 ⁶ , Sept-Dec	May 1-May 15, Jun-Aug: May only be taken in less than 180 ft (30 fm)	10 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG complex bag limit	None
Cabezon	Open all year	Same as RCG Complex above	3 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG complex bag limit	15" total length
Kelp and Rock Greenlings	Open all year	Same as RCG Complex above	2 fish in combination per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG complex bag limit	12" total length
Lingcod	Open: Jan-Oct Closed: Nov-Dec	Jan-Apr: No depth restrictions May-Oct: May only be taken in less than 180 ft (30 fm)	1 fish per person	30" total length
Other Federal Groundfish (see list below this table, or go to www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/groundfish_fedlist.html)	Open all year	Same as RCG Complex above	See regulations for individual species	See regulations for individual species
Sanddabs⁴	Open all year	No depth restrictions	No bag or possession limit	None

¹ See regulations for information on gear restrictions and fillet lengths

² Subject to in-season change. Check the Marine Region Web site at www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd, send an e-mail to AskMarine@dfg.ca.gov, or call your local DFG office for the latest information.

³ Total length is the longest straight-line measurement from the tip of the head (with the mouth closed) to the longest lobe of the tail. For a measurement graphic, go to www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/measurement.pdf, or look on page 48 of the 2004 Ocean Sport Fishing Regulation booklet.

⁴ The sport fishery for sanddabs, using gear specified in federal and state regulations, is exempt from the in-season closures and depth restrictions placed on other federally managed groundfish as of May 1, 2004

⁵ The sport fishery for black rockfish is open from May 1 through May 15 **in state waters only** (from 0 to 3 nautical miles offshore) in less than 180 ft (30 fm).

⁶ The sport fishery for black rockfish is closed from May 16 through May 31 in federal (from 3 to 200 nautical miles offshore) and state waters (0 to 3 nautical miles offshore). Black rockfish may not be taken from May 16 through May 31.

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List of Federally Managed Groundfish That Fall Under the “Other Federal Groundfish” Category

NOTE: This is NOT a complete list of federally managed groundfish. It is a list of federally managed groundfish not specifically mentioned in the table, for purposes of defining the species of fish included in the “Other Federal Groundfish” category within this table.

SHARKS:

leopard shark, *Triakis semifasciata*
soupin shark, *Galeorhinus zyopterus*
spiny dogfish, *Squalus acanthias*

SKATES:

big skate, *Raja binoculata*
California skate, *R. inornata*
longnose skate, *R. rhina*

RATFISH:

ratfish, *Hydrolagus colliei*

FLATFISH:

arrowtooth flounder (arrowtooth turbot),
Atheresthes stomias
butter sole, *Isopsetta isolepis*
curlfin sole, *Pleuronichthys decurrens*
Dover sole, *Microstomus pacificus*
English sole, *Parophrys vetulus*
flathead sole, *Hippoglossoides elassodon*
petrale sole, *Eopsetta jordani*
rex sole, *Glyptocephalus zachirus*
rock sole, *Lepidopsetta bilineata*
sand sole, *Psettichthys melanostictus*
starry flounder, *Platichthys stellatus*

MORIDS:

finescale codling, *Antimora microlepis*

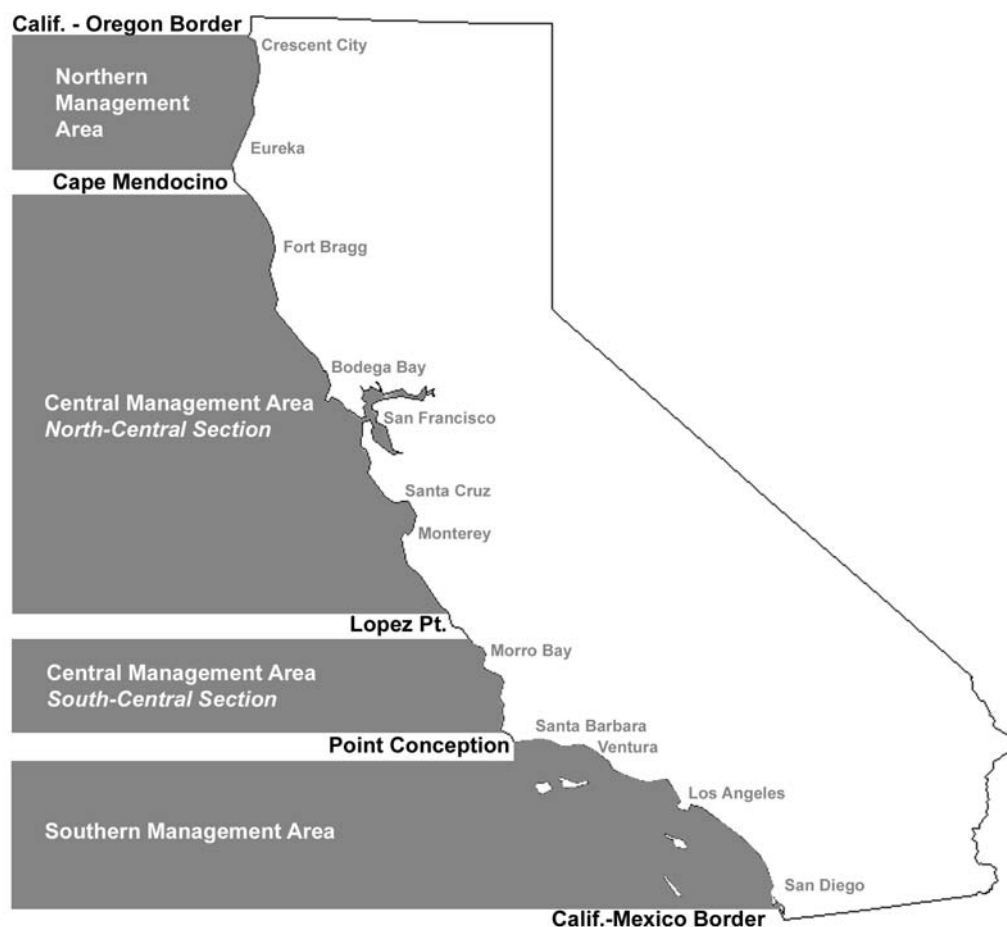
GRENADIERS:

Pacific rattail, *Coryphaenoides acrolepis*

ROUND FISH:

Pacific cod, *Gadus macrocephalus*
Pacific whiting, *Merluccius productus*
sablefish, *Anoplopoma fimbria*

Map of Fishing Management Areas



Pacific halibut (*Hippoglossus stenolepis*) is managed by the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC). The Department supports all rules and regulations adopted by the IPHC.